May 31, 2012

The Honorable Julius Genachowski
Chairman, Federal Communications Commission
445 – 12th St. SW
Washington, DC 20554

Dear Chairman Genachowski:

The Public Interest Public Airwaves Coalition (PIPAC) commends you for leading the Commission's long effort to require broadcasters to place their public files online. *Public* information should actually be accessible to the *public*.

This over-due move will help ensure that broadcast licensees are fulfilling statutory requirements addressing how broadcasters sell political advertising. It will also provide members of the public with the information they need and deserve about the political dialogue occurring on the publicly owned airwaves.

We are disappointed that some in the broadcast industry are seeking to overturn these rules. We reiterate our support for the Commission's adoption of this modest – yet critical – modernization and transparency effort.

Finally we encourage the Commission to continue to increase public access to, and the utility of, the information contained in broadcasters' public files by issuing promptly a Notice of Proposed Rulemaking in the pending proceeding on television broadcasters issues/programs (I/P) lists. We urge the Commission replace television broadcasters' current I/P lists with a streamlined, electronic disclosure form so that members of the public can better understand whether and how their local TV stations are serving the information needs of their communities of license.

Again, thank you for your leadership.

Benton Foundation*
Campaign Legal Center
Free Press
Institute for Public Representation, Georgetown University Law Center
Open Technology Institute, New America Foundation
Public Citizen

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